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The great unveiling

Hockey Canada and Nike reveal the new Sochi Olympic jerseys PAGE 4

Somethin' to snuggle with?

Report reveals who buys what gadgets in Canada; Alta. leads the list PAGE 6

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Man accused of stabbing Edmonton police dog to death facing charges in Winnipeg

Edmonton police say the man accused of killing Quanto was wanted in Winnipeg on unrelated charges. COURTESY EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

Change urged.

Strongest charge that can be laid is cruelty towards animals

The Edmonton police say changes are needed to the Criminal Code after an Edmonton police service dog (PSD) was killed Monday morning.

PSD Quanto was stabbed as a suspect tried to flee from officers following an early-morning vehicle chase. The man had stopped his vehicle and attempted to flee on foot when Quanto tried to arrest him.

The dog was rushed to an Edmonton veterinary clinic, but succumbed to his injuries.

Police have one suspect in custody.

Paul Joseph Vukmavich, 27, is facing multiple charges including criminal flight, dangerous driving, possession of stolen property, possession of a weapon for dangerous purposes, resisting arrest and cruelty to an animal.

Police said Vukmavich is also facing warrants for his arrest from Winnipeg and Thunder Bay.

Acting Staff Sgt. Troy Carriere said Quanto had undoubtedly protected police officers and the public by pursuing the suspect.

"Police service dog Quanto had absolutely, no doubt, dedicated his life to the unit, to the citizens of Edmonton, and this morning made the ultimate sacrifice," he said Monday.

When it comes to the death of the dog, Carriere said cruelty to an animal is the strongest charge that can be laid.

"It's been our intent to have that changed," Carriere said.

"We need to adjust the Criminal Code at some point in time and this is obviously a good time to do that."

METRO IN EDMONTON/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NEWS 1

Beer fight. Local man charged after stabbing

Police have a man in custody after a battle over beer turned bloody at a party in Winnipeg's Centennial neighbourhood Monday night.

Police said several people were at the party in the 500 block of William Street when a fight over cold ones broke out around 11:30 p.m.

A 29-year-old man was taken to hospital in unstable condition with stab wounds to his upper body after one of the partygoers armed himself with a knife and attacked the victim as the fight escalated, according to police.

"It's one of those incidents where people are going out, having a nice time, and then for whatever reason tempers flare," said police spokesperson Const. Eric Hofley.

A 51-year-old man from Winnipeg is facing aggravated assault and breach of probation charges for his alleged involvement.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Flooding. Water-main break closes major clinic

It will be another week before one of west Winnipeg's largest medical clinics reopens.

A large water-main break flooded Assiniboine Clinic on Oct. 2, closing down the clinic and severely damaging the lab in the clinic's basement.

A spokesperson outside the clinic said Tuesday it would likely be another week before the clinic is allowed to reopen. "We just got the water back yesterday," she said, adding that crews were doing air-quality testing Tuesday.

While the clinic may reopen after Thanksgiving weekend, the lab is another matter. "It will likely be a couple of months (before the lab is opened)," she said.

Doctors in the clinic are either rescheduling patients while some have found temporary space at the nearby Grace Hospital.

The pharmacy in the clinic remains open.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Inquest. Nurse says he tried to save man

A nurse who tried to resuscitate a man who died during a 34-hour wait in a Winnipeg emergency room says Brian Sinclair was obviously dead by the time he was brought to the attention of medical staff.

Nic Wedel told the inquest into Sinclair's death that a security guard brought the 45-year-old over in his wheelchair, saying he was dead and needed help.

Although the security guard testified earlier that Wedel thought he was joking, Wedel said he was just shocked, but quickly called for a resuscitation team to try to save Sinclair's life.

Wedel said he started to give CPR, but the life-saving efforts of the resuscitation team lasted less than a minute before Sinclair was declared dead.

Wedel was asked why they bothered trying to resuscitate Sinclair when rigor mortis had already set in.

"I felt it was required to do resuscitation efforts to give him a chance," he said.

Sinclair's family, and others, have alleged racism played a part in how he was treated. But nurse Kathy Collis, who was also working the night Sinclair was discovered, said she doesn't see her patients that way.

"If you are in a bed, I look after you," she said. "That's my job. That's my responsibility."

The head nurse working that weekend has already testified the emergency room was overcrowded and short-staffed, operating without a key triage nurse when Sinclair arrived seeking care.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fire at Fort Rouge home suspicious, say police

Targeted arson?
Owner's daughter suspects disgruntled former tenants

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

An early-morning fire in Fort Rouge has been deemed suspicious and the homeowner's daughter blames former tenants for starting it.

Police were called to 761 McMillan Ave. just after 2:30 a.m. for a reported break-and-enter, but when they arrived, officers found firefighters already on the scene fighting a blaze on the second floor of the two-storey duplex.

A woman at the scene around 9 a.m. told Metro her stepfather owns the duplex and said he has had troubles with former tenants of the upstairs suite breaking back into the building since their recent eviction.

She said her stepfather was staying in the downstairs suite and was the only person in the home when he heard someone break into the second floor just before discovering the fire.

Police spokesperson Const. Eric Hofley said the homeowner was able to escape the fire, and said he saw a person running out the back of the home at the time the fire started. But Hofley stopped short of calling the fire a case of targeted arson.

"Investigators and (the Identification Unit) are still on scene," he told media at an 11 a.m. press conference. "It's certainly a possibility … but at this point the cause has not yet been determined."

Damage from the fire is estimated at between $250,00 to $300,000, and Hofley said police have made no arrests.

Members of the Arson Strike Force investigate at 761 McMillan Ave. after the homeowner told police he found a fire burning in the home's vacant second-floor suite following a break-in early Tuesday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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Fireball spurs a look at hazardous materials

Mission approved.
Area plan coming for neighbourhood that saw 2012 fireball

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

A fireball last year over the St. Boniface industrial area has brought up concerns over a perceived lack of inspections of businesses housing hazardous materials. METRO FILE

Last year's fireball over the St. Boniface industrial area has spurred more than the creation of a neighbourhood plan for the vicinity — it has also brought up concerns over a perceived lack of inspections of businesses housing hazardous materials.

On Tuesday, members of the city's property and development committee recommended the creation of a local area plan for the Mission Industrial neighbourhood to deal with homes being close to industrial buildings.

The committee members also passed a motion asking the protection and community services committee to look at how the city enforces safe storage of hazardous materials in businesses and on railway cars.

Coun. Jeff Browaty was among several councillors to voice concerns over the inspection process, which a new city report says is based on "complaints, issues or incidents."

"There were a number of sites that weren't following current bylaws. I think it would be troubling if we didn't act on it," said Browaty.

"There were a couple lines in this report that certainly raised alarm bells."

Coun. Dan Vandal said there are currently 16 businesses operating with Environmental Act licences granted by the provincial government in the Mission Industrial area and it's "crazy" that the province does not legislate inspections like they do with daycares, schools and seniors' blocks.

"It's not part of a regular, aggressive enforcement cycle that fire and the Office of the Fire Commissioner currently do," said Vandal.

A provincial official said the Office of the Fire Commissioner is working with several Manitoba municipalities, including Winnipeg, on recommendations, including a "provincial minimum standard for regular inspections of industrial sites like Speedway."

"The final report is expected to be presented to the province soon. Nothing is stopping any municipality from setting their own regular inspections in the meantime."

Preparing for winter

Snow-clearing changes meant only for residential streets: Browaty

Coun. Jeff Browaty
BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

A Winnipeg city councillor cautioned against making an avalanche out of a snowflake when it comes to potential snow-clearing changes.

Coun. Jeff Browaty said the recommendation made by consulting firm KPMG in the Operational Review of Public Works to not plow curb-to-curb or down to bare pavement is specifically for residential or priority three (PIII) streets.

"This wouldn't change anything to do with the downtown snow policy, this wouldn't change collector streets, the priority ones, the Henderson Highways, the Chief Peguises, Pembina Highway, Portage, McPhillips, all the major routes, this does not touch them at all," he said on Tuesday, adding that priority two streets — usually bus routes and roads with schools on them — also wouldn't be affected.

Browaty said currently, priority three streets are plowed curb-to-curb and down to the pavement rarely and this past winter, which saw a lot of snow, priority three streets were plowed only a few times.

The change could mean these roads would actually be plowed more often.

"What they're proposing instead is a truck plow that would come down your street much quicker," he said. "The idea is to keep the streets passable in the winter."

As for the "Winter Control Surcharge" recommendation, which would be added to tax bills if the plowing costs during a winter period exceed the budgeted amount, Browaty said he's against it.

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

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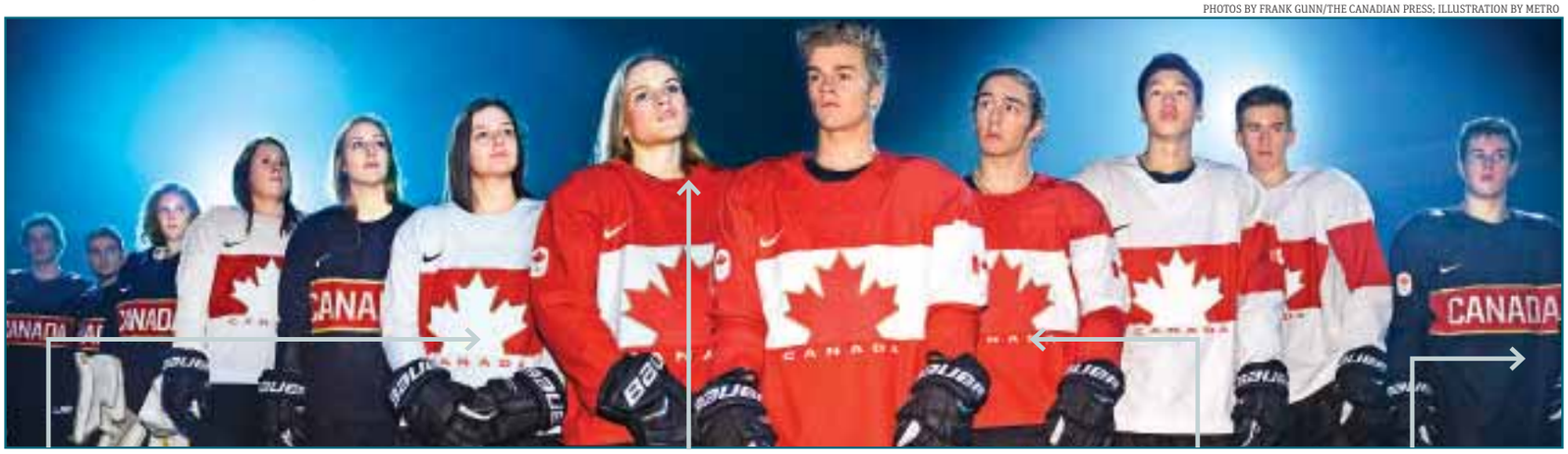
Sochi style: Can Team Canada pull it off?

PHOTOS BY FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS; ILLUSTRATION BY METRO



Looking ahead

On the road to Sochi Olympics

More than a month after the first leak, Hockey Canada and Nike officially unveiled Canada's hockey jerseys for the 2014 Winter Olympics. Amid club music and laser lights, youth players skated onto the ice at Maple Leaf Gardens sporting the red, white and alternate black uniforms that the men's, women's and sledge-hockey teams will wear at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The event was another marker on the road to Sochi.

THE CANADIAN PRESS AND TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The big to-do

"Their mouths dropped, a little awestruck. They didn't realize what they were here for. When they saw the jersey for the first time, it hit them like it hits any NHL guy that's going to don that jersey."

Hockey Hall of Famer and former Canadian Olympian Joe Nieuwendyk, about the teenage players from the Toronto area who were invited to model the jerseys.

Petro Canada ad?

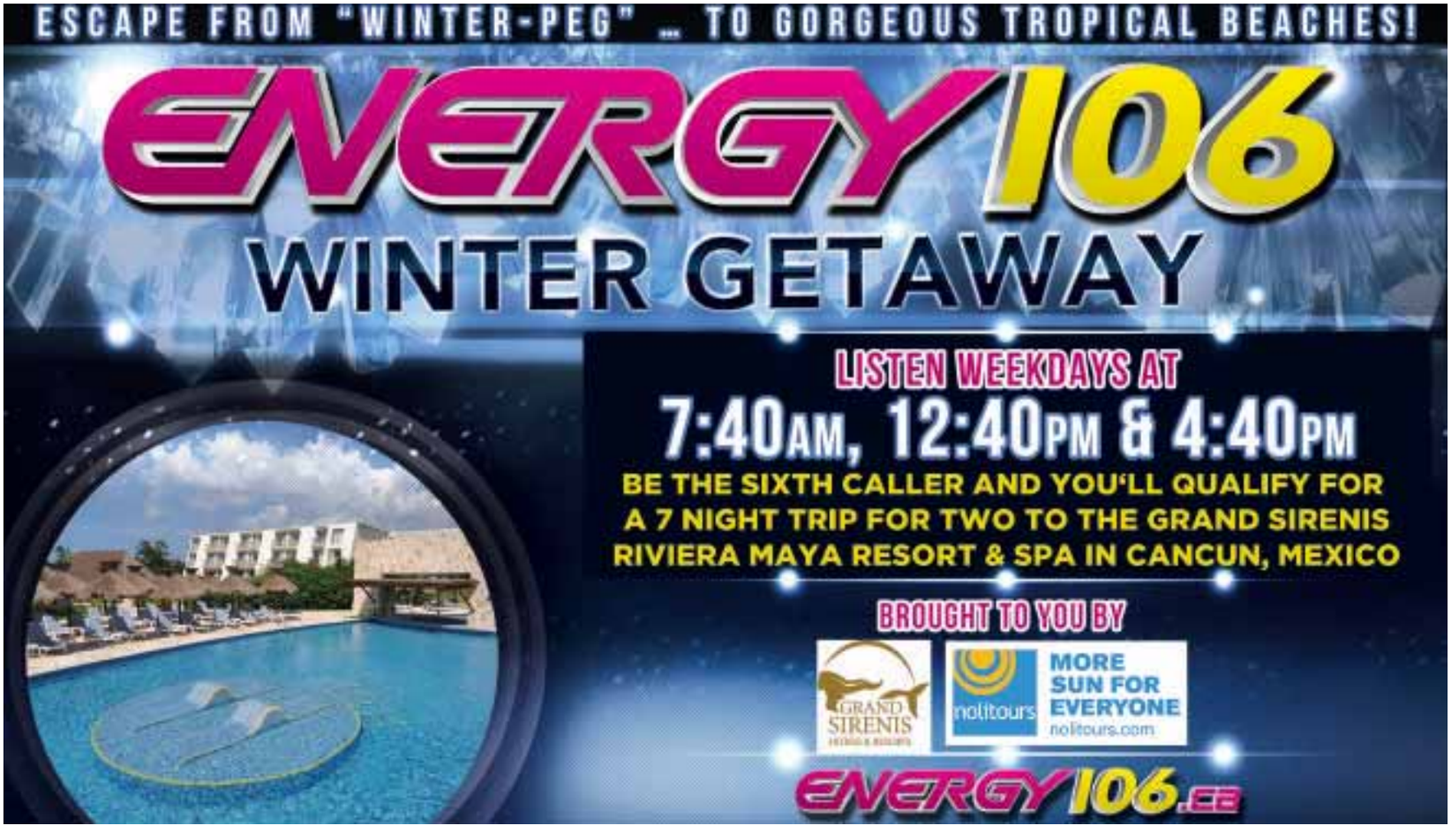
Critics say the red and white jerseys with a stem-less maple leaf resemble Petro Canada's logo.

- But Nike's Olympic creative director Ken Black said the main inspirations for the design were Canada's 1920 and 1972 Olympic hockey jerseys.

Red, white and black

3

Canada will be the only team in Sochi with a third jersey. "The fans like black, there's no question, and so do the players. But our real colours are red and white," Hockey Canada president and CEO Bob Nicholson said.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Sen. Duffy in hot water again with new allegations

Fresh findings. Auditor flags series of payments to Mike Duffy's friend Gerald Donahue, a former TV technician

Sen. Mike Duffy THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

An RCMP allegation that Sen. Mike Duffy awarded $65,000 in Senate contracts to a friend who did little actual work is the latest twist in the case of the troubled former Conservative.

The Mounties filed a production order in an Ottawa court on Tuesday to gain access to bank-account records related to the allegation. They are looking at new allegations of fraud and breach of trust against Duffy, based on fresh findings.

"That investigation determined that Sen. Duffy hired a friend as a consultant over an approximate four-year period and paid him a total of approximately $65,000 during that time, for little or no apparent work," wrote Cpl. Greg Horton, the lead investigator.

Duffy said in an email that it would be "inappropriate for me to comment while these matters are being examined by the RCMP." No charges have been laid against Duffy.

An auditor flagged a series of payments to Duffy's friend Gerald Donahue, a former TV technician.

Between 2009 and 2012, Duffy asked the Senate to pay Donahue for a range of writing services including speeches, advice on web page design and development and general media consulting.

But Donahue told police that he didn't do any writing and never worked on the website. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chris Hadfield. Retired astronaut turns prof at University of Waterloo

The former Canadian astronaut who gained a global audience with his musical performances in space will be taking on a new job as professor of aviation at an Ontario university.

The University of Waterloo says Chris Hadfield's first task on campus will be assisting research into why some astronauts get fainting spells when they return to Earth — knowledge it says will also be useful for elderly people prone to falling.

The school on Tuesday announced the appointment of the ex-astronaut, who retired in July shortly after getting back from five months on the International Space Station.

During the mission, Hadfield became the first Canadian commander of the space station and performed more than 130 science experiments. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chris Hadfield gestures shortly after landing in Dzhezkazgan, Kazakhstan, last May. He will be taking on a new job as professor of aviation at the University of Waterloo. MIKHAIL METZEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Endangered liaisons

Spy allegations put Canada-Brazil military ties at risk: Experts

A carefully cultivated military relationship with Brazil could be damaged by the unfolding spy drama involving Canada's super-secret eavesdropping agency, defence and diplomacy experts say.

Since late spring, a platoon of Canadian soldiers has been embedded with a Brazilian army unit as part of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Haiti.

The deployment, slated to run until Christmas, has been considered an important bridge-building effort with South America's biggest military power.

Walter Dorn, a professor at the Canadian Forces Staff College in Toronto, says the scandal will give Brazil second thoughts about Canada as a reliable partner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Alberta is iPhone country, according to a new survey. So naturally this woman is using an iPhone as she snaps events at last July's Calgary Stampede. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Yak, yak, yak: That's diversity

Talk, talk, talk! Canadians are taking calls on everything from iPhones to Androids, report says

We're a diverse country. Just check our smartphones.

Alberta is iPhone country.

Toronto consumers and anglophones living in Montreal are faithful to BlackBerry.

Vancouverites are most into Google Android phones.

That's the message in a new report by the Media Technology Monitor, which investigates how consumers are embracing technology.

"It isn't surprising to see that in a country as diverse as Canada you're going to see diversity not just between anglophones and francophones but also the regions as well," said MTM executive Andrea Sharkey.

Albertans are buying smartphones and tablets more than any other consumers in Canada, the report says.

But francophones living in Quebec City are least likely to have one of the devices, according to the report.

The figures are based on surveys with more than 12,000 Canadians conducted last fall and this spring.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

68%

Only 68 per cent of francophones in Quebec City own a cellphone, according to a study by the Media Technology Monitor.

Super idea. Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a Superman licence plate

Superman's got wheels. Ohio fans of the Man of Steel now officially can have the Superman logo on their vehicles.

A licence plate with the iconic "S" insignia and the phrase "Truth, Justice and the American Way" is on sale.

Relatives of Superman creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster were at the plate's unveiling outside the Cleveland-area home where Siegel lived.

A letter by Siegel's daughter said the men who created the comic superhero as teenagers in the 1930s would have been "absolutely thrilled."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I can just imagine them driving around ... and pointing out the plates as they spotted them."

Laura Siegel Larson, Jerry Siegel's daughter, imagining the excited reaction of the Superman creators.

Licence to thrill: The new Superman plate. GUS CHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tweet this. Confused Twitter fans give Tweeter a boost on stock market

Tweeter is not Twitter. And its stock symbol has changed to avoid confusion.

The bankrupt electronics retailer's stock resumed trading Tuesday under "THEGQ." Its old symbol was "TWTRQ."

That was apparently too similar to "TWTR," the symbol proposed by Twitter when the messaging service filed plans for its highly anticipated initial public offering.

A vacant Tweeter store in New Hampshire. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Some confused investors sent Tweeter's stock up as much as 1,400 per cent on Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Europe cracks down

No butts about it: Smoking a no-no

European lawmakers approved sweeping new regulations governing the multibillion-dollar tobacco market on Tuesday.

The new rules include bigger warnings on cigarette packs and a ban on menthol and other flavourings in a bid to further curb smoking.

They stopped short, however, of tough limits on electronic cigarettes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chips recalled

Pringles crying over missed milk

Pringles brand salt-and-vinegar potato chips are being recalled because they contain milk that isn't declared on the label.

The chips were sold across Canada in 168-gram packages (UPC code 0 64100 85246 4). There have been no reported illnesses linked to the product. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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THE FUTURE IS HERE, BUT NO ONE CARES

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

If you were ever a kid, you'll remember dreaming about having your very own two-way wrist communicator.

Jimmy Olsen had one to stay in touch with Superman. All he had to do was press the button, and a cool zee-zee-zee sound would summon the Man of Steel.

In fact, anyone who was anyone in the fantasy universe had one, from Dick Tracy to Captain Kirk to Knight Rider to the Power Rangers.

Now you can have one, thanks to Samsung, which has just released the Galaxy Gear. This device gives your wrist a very high-tech panache and allows you to link up to your Galaxy phone via Bluetooth and talk at your wrist.

Too bad the fantasy is still better than the reality.

Because the Gear has no brain, i.e. SIM card, of its own, it's pretty much a local version of the phone in your pocket. And only if that phone is a Galaxy Note 3. You'll have to wait for the next version to hook up to more phones and functionality. But if you want to be the first Inspector Gadget on your block and you have $300 to spend on a half-baked idea, knock yourself out.

Still Samsung has succeeded at one thing … its outstanding commercials recapture the gee-whizzery of the wrist phone, as they take us through a gallery of fantastic applications from the comics and movies leading to the next big thing: Your BFF right there on your wrist, ready to two-way, just like Jimmy Olsen and Superman.

What's interesting is that I don't care. And neither, apparently, does anyone else.

The Galaxy Gear has been released with a big tech thud.

It's partly because the watch itself appears to be a work in progress, but the Samsung ads are technically accurate — if oversimplified — and you have to wonder why the smart wrist watch — and other gee-whizzicker products such as Google Glass — don't bring the magic.

Aren't we delighted that the future has finally arrived?

Maybe it's because now that it's here, we don't really like it. It comes with baggage, such as greenhouse gases and Miley Cyrus. And now that we can communicate without wires, it's all too obvious that most of us don't really have anything to say. Hashtag fail.

And instead of escaping into the next future, we're so freaked out by the one we're in that we can only imagine dystopian scenarios featuring the zombie apocalypse, where the zombies know where we are at all times thanks to GPS.

The Galaxy Gear is really an old-fashioned idea. It belongs in the Dick Tracy era with our collective childhood. Your real mobile device is much more powerful and just as handy.

The real future, sad to say, isn't for kids.

ZOOM

Many scribbles make light work

JANNE PARVIAINEN/REX FEATURES

Photo captured with long exposure

A light illusionist did his best to show himself and his wife suffering the hot flashes of a flu. Janne Parviainen, 33, from Helsinki, Finland, created this unsettling image using amazing light techniques and long-exposure photography. The Finn told Metro he created this dazzling light display out of boredom. **METRO**

Making light of the flu

"Having a really bad flu made me focus and concentrate on getting this photograph right. It was like a battle against the odds, but I kept telling myself I could do this."

Janne Parviainen, artist and photographer from Helsinki, Finland

How the artist pulled off the light effect

How did Parviainen pull off this mesmerizing image?

"I set up the camera for a long-exposure photograph," the artist begins. "Then, I created the lines using a flashing red and blue LED light. I was crawling and jumping from one end of the room to the next, all to make sure that every inch of the room was covered in the light." **METRO**

Exposure time in minutes

30

minutes is the time frame Parviainen used to create his long-exposure photograph. All of his surreal photographs, the Finnish photographer claims, are produced manually with no post-production alterations or enhancements.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

If all that Nobel news about Francois Englert and Peter Higgs winning the physics prize for their Higgs boson work wasn't enough to turn you on to science for the week, then perhaps the amazing space-is-scary film Gravity and what astronauts have had to say about it has piqued your interest. Here's some breezy reading about science and space while you're tuned in.

This image shows a typical event in the search for the Higgs boson. COURTESY CERN

Bad Astronomy:

Phil Plait waxes ecstatic about all things extraterrestrial in some of the friendliest wording you'll find on topics that typically trend toward dense. A word of warning: He's generous with links, so it's easy to get lost. (slate.com/blogs/bad_astronomy.html)

Mother Jones:

OK, so this isn't a blog at all. But Kiera Butler, Mother Jones' science writer, is a required addition to your RSS feed for topics ranging from scary business like antibiotic overprescription to comforting news like the benefits of frozen food. (motherjones.com/authors/kiera-butler)

Planetary Society:

The writers who lovingly tend the Planetary Society blogs section are serious eggheads. But if you happen to be a quick study with genius jargon and academic acronyms, you'll soon be up to date on the Comet of the Century. Did you even know one of those was coming? (planetary.org/blogs)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: @Cmdr_Hadfield signed on as an aviation professor at the University of Waterloo. What should his first lesson be about?

@PiscesCurse: How to make a kick-ass music video from space to top all others!

@damianpenny: He should explain how Joel eats and sleeps and other science fact. #mst3k

@_J_T_V_: how to grow an Aviation spec moustache

@hilsmol: "Bad-Asstronomics 101"

@giggyalso: don't take gravity lightly

@josephinecleo: how to master the perfect side-part in space. Astronauts need to look good for the cosmos!

@rurbonas: Calculating the fastest route out of Waterloo and how to avoid Kitchener entirely.

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Which celeb driver are you?

You may have moves like Jagger, but when it comes to your driving style, who is your celebrity match? Despite Canada's reputation as a modest nation, a global survey for Kijiji reveals that when it comes to cars, Canadian drivers value style over substance. In fact, as you'll see, there may be more "Beliebers" on our roads than ones saying "hit me baby one more time."
METRO

Image Seekers (27 per cent)

Key values
Brand, design and style are most important.

Global average
23 per cent.

Celebrity Match
Justin Bieber — his Ferarri F430 is rumoured to be as important to him as his hair.

Efficiency Seekers (22 per cent)

Key values
Brand is less of a priority, but reliability, efficiency, and running costs matter.

Global average
22 per cent.

Celebrity Match
Leonardo DiCaprio — he loves hybrids as much as he loves Victoria's Secret models.

Performance Seekers (17 per cent)

Key values
Handling and power are higher up on the list of priorities.

Global average
17 per cent.

Celebrity Match
Jay Leno — he spends as much time shining his muscle cars or at the race tracks as he does prepping his monologues.

Necessity Drivers (19 per cent)

Key values
Say a car is just a tool to get from A to B; most likely to drive a silver or grey Chevy/Toyota/Chrysler.

Global average
17 per cent.

Celebrity Match
James Franco — whether it's luxury or not, he just needs his car to get to his next class.

Risk Takers (five per cent)

Key values
Parks carelessly, more likely to drink and drive.

Global average
11 per cent.

Celebrity Match
Lindsay Lohan— do we really need to elaborate?

Accident Prone (five per cent)

Key values
Despite less obvious risk taking they are still prone to accidents.

Global average
Six per cent.

Celebrity Match
Britney Spears — though she hasn't run over a Police officer's foot or hit a paparazzo lately.

Cautious Drivers (five per cent)

Key values
Rarely has accidents or damages their car.

Global average
Four per cent.

Celebrity Match
Betty White — her driving record is as golden as her television career.

If you've seen one Hanks, you haven't seen them all

New movie. The star of Captain Phillips has avoided being typecast over the years and continually delivers diverse performances

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Tom Hanks' Captain Phillips opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

When you think of the movies of Arnold Schwarzenegger or Sylvester Stallone, gut busting action comes to mind. The names Steve Martin and Adam Sandler are forever connected to comedy, while Daniel Day Lewis is synonymous with serious drama. Meg Ryan? She'll always be a romantic comedy star just as the mere mention of Robert Eglund's name can send a chill down the spine.

But what about Tom Hanks? Hanks is a rarity among A-listers. He's an actor who has avoided stereotyping by pasting together a resumé that includes almost every genre of film.

This weekend he stars in Captain Phillips, a drama based on the true story of the 2009 hijacking of the MV Maersk Alabama by Somali pirates.

It's a heroic role — in real life President Obama said Capt. Richard Phillips' courage "is a model for all Americans" — but it's a far cry from his last movie, Cloud Atlas, which saw him play three characters, one of which tossed a critic out of a skyscraper window.

His varied IMDB listing includes everything from comedies like Splash ("What you looking at? You never seen a guy who slept with a fish before?") to Academy-Award-winning dramas like Philadelphia, where he played a gay lawyer with AIDS suing his firm for discrimination, and Forrest Gump.

In the kids' classic Toy Story (and its subsequent sequels) he's Woody, a stuffed pull-string cowboy doll. Director John Lasseter says he wanted Hanks to play the character because of his "ability to take emotions and make them appealing."

Much darker is Road to Perdition, the 2002 Sam Mendes film that cast Hanks as Michael Sullivan, Sr., an ace hitman who must protect his son from a mob assassin.

"I just got this guy," says Hanks. "If you're a man, and you've got offspring … emotionally, it's devastating."

Different still is Nothing in Common, a dramedy that saw Hanks play a successful advertising executive trying to cope with his parents' (Jackie Gleason and Eva Marie Saint) break up.

Hanks says, "I'm not looking for any particular kind of story," and his varied approach to his work hasn't hurt him one bit. Recently he was named America's "best-liked movie star," in a poll by Public Policy Polling.

Miley Cyrus. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

If Miley wants Liam back, she'd better make nice with the sister-in-law

Apparently another woman played a major role in the break-up of Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth, but it wasn't another girlfriend. According to Radar Online, Hemsworth's sister-in-law, Elsa Pataky, "is no fan of Miley" and urged him to break off their engagement.

"Elsa is totally against Miley and Liam getting back together. She spent the last year freezing Miley out in some kind of passive-aggressive move," a source says.

"Miley desperately wants to get back with Liam and believes she can because she's done it before. But to do that, she's going to have to win over Elsa."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Why Tom Hanks can't get down to fighting weight

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Get back, cookies. You leave our Tom Hanks alone.

The beloved star, whose film Captain Phillips comes out this week, revealed last night on the Late Show that he has Type 2 diabetes.

"I went to the doctor and she said, 'You know those high blood-sugar numbers you've been dealing with since you were 36? Well, you've graduated,'" he said to David Letterman. "'You've got Type 2 diabetes, young man.'" Hanks said his doctor did offer him an escape strategy. "She said, 'Look, if you can weigh as much as you did in high school, you will essentially be completely healthy, you will not have Type 2 diabetes.' And I said to her, 'Well, I'm going to have Type 2 diabetes.' Because there is no way I can weigh as much as I did in high school."

Come on. Tom looks like he's already in pretty good shape. He can make it. How much did he weigh in high school? "I weighed 96 pounds in high school," he claims. "And most of that was that big, wide afro."

Halle's new son gets a meaningful moniker

Halle Berry and Olivier Martinez have picked a name for their newborn son, and it's Maceo Robert Martinez, according to E! News. "They chose it because it means gift from God," a source says. "Olivier wanted to give a nod to his Spanish roots. They picked the name a while ago. They love it."

Halle Berry

Twitter

@KellyOsbourne
I have been punched in the face by men but nothing has hurt more than being head butted in the jaw by my bulldog William! my teeth even hurt

@TomArnold
Put a very comfortable day bed in your son's nursery because he'll be in your bed with mom and that's where you'll be watching Sports Center

@JuddApatow
Leslie is searching for hoarder experts for me. I think she is overreacting. I will definitely get to that issue of Time Magazine from 98.

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CONTRIBUTED

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For locations, times or more information visit activepawsmanitoba.com, call Miranda at 204-899-8005, or email activepaws1@hotmail.com.

Headed to Mexico this winter? Want to go surfing? Hidden away on the Pacific Coast, the town of Puerto Escondido is generating buzz thanks to a starring role in HGTV's season premiere of Live Here, Buy This! The draw? The Mexican Pipeline, an unforgiving wave that attracts an international surfing crowd. Travel writer Michele Peterson created an app offering an insider's guide to Mexico's Surf City. Here are a few excerpts.

5 Hot spots in Puerto Escondido

Cafes & quick bites: Osa Mariposa

This hip hostel, just two blocks from the beach, appeals to backpackers and surfers. Choose from private bungalows or shared dormitories (four to a room). The clean and spacious bathrooms are superior to many others in this price range. The on-site restaurant offers a menu of tasty veggie and vegan options. Don't miss the black bean veggie burgers. Mescal and tequila figure highly at the bar. The website has a helpful map. You'll need it to find the place: osamariposa.com.

Lodging: Aqua Luna Hotel

This sleek, minimalist boutique hotel owned by an Aussie long boarder and his Mexican wife, offers a sophisticated escape in 16 rooms at wallet-friendly prices ranging from $25-$70 per night or $700 monthly for kitchenette rooms. The pearl-white walls, violet-hued swimming pool and adults-only policy creates a sensual Miami SoBe retreat, conveniently perched above Zicatela, the hippest beach with the most wave action. hotel-aqualuna.com.

Adventure/culture: Oasis Surf and Language School

Even your pre-schooler can take Spanish classes at this professional language school located in the Rinconada neighbourhood. The school offers beginner, intermediate and advanced classes as well as specialized medical Spanish for health-care professionals. A full slate of cultural activities is available, including a learn-to-surf program. The school can also arrange volunteer experiences if you'd like to give back to the community and practise your new lingo at the same time. Visit oasislanguageschool.com. A five-day week of one-and-a-half-hour language classes costs about $75 US. Surfing classes cost around $35 US per class, with discounts on packages.

Natural attractions: Zicatela Beach

The main strip flanking Calle del Morro is packed with surf shops, restaurants, cafés, hotels and booming nightclubs. If you long to feel the sand between your toes, the wide beach is dotted with loungers, Bali beds and hammocks — all free to use with the purchase of a consumo (drink or snack). This is where the epic Mexican Pipeline wave breaks, so the main draw is surfing, but you can also take yoga classes, have a massage or book an excursion all within a few block radius. Strong surf and undertow makes this beach dangerous for swimmers. The red flag is always flying but depending on the tides, it's possible to find a shallow tidal pool and splash about like a duckling.

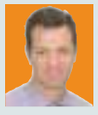
Bars & drink: Casa Babylon

Bookstore by day, nightclub by night. This unusual combination of bookstore/coffee shop and nightclub is weird enough to work. An eclectic decor of Mexican masks, Asian statues and rough-hewn furniture morphs effectively from a quiet haven into a pulsing nightclub with techno music, reggae, funk and live bands. Exchange some books, play a board game or two and then come back to party.

THE PUERTO ESCONDIDO TRAVEL ESSENTIALS APP, PACKED WITH UP-TO-DATE INSIDER TIPS, IS AVAILABLE FOR $2.99 IN THE APP STORE AT PUERTO ESCONDIDO TRAVEL ESSENTIALS OR ON GOOGLE PLAY.

Cruising

A riverboat fantasy — come true



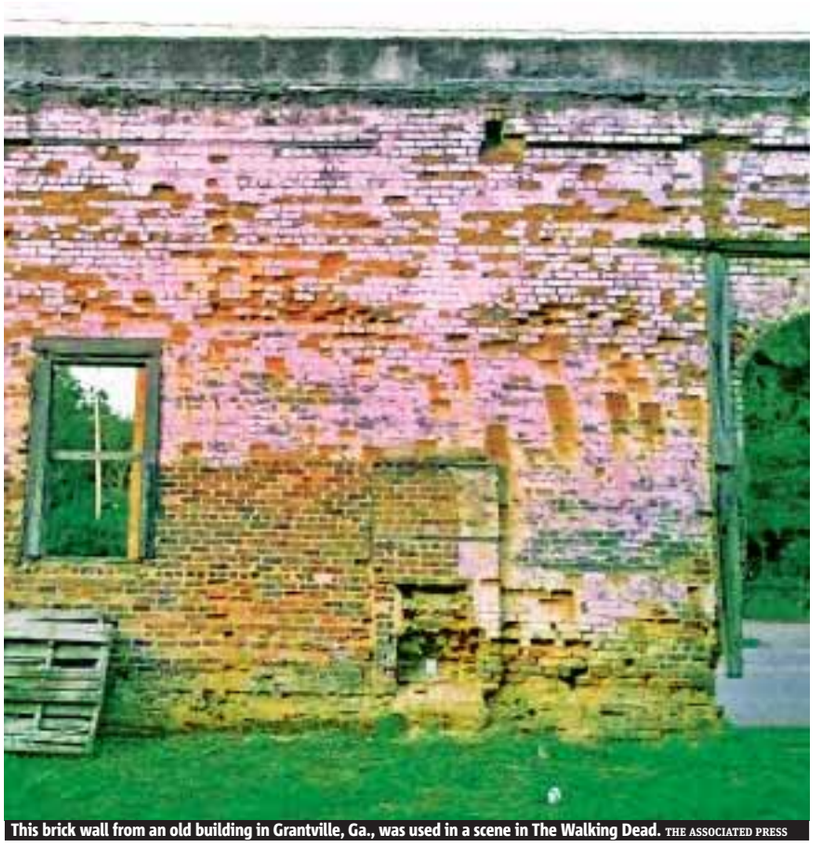
ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

The exploding popularity of river cruising is hardly surprising.

The most endearing quality of a river cruise is the intimacy it offers. A standard ship has capacity for 150 to 200 guests versus an ocean liner, which typically has 1,000-plus guests onboard. This allows you to get to know your travelling companions and removes the annoyance of having to stand in long lines to embark, disembark or simply enjoy a meal. River cruising also provides easy access to the destinations. At most stops you can wander into town from the dock or hop a short coach ride to a city centre. The distances between stops are typically much shorter than a standard cruise, allowing for the possibility of one to two stops per day and never having to spend a long day at sea. Although the most popular routes are in Europe, there are sailings available in countries as diverse as China, Russia and Vietnam.

There are various companies in the market. At the top end is Scenic Tours. They appear to be on the pricey end but bear in mind they are the only true all-inclusive river cruise company. The other big players are Uniworld, AMA, Viking and Avalon. Emerald Waterways is the latest company to ply the rivers. It is a four-star product with fewer services and a lower price point, all aimed at attracting a younger demographic.

River cruising is taking off around the world. ISTOCK



This brick wall from an old building in Grantville, Ga., was used in a scene in The Walking Dead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Walking Dead bring life to tiny town

Grateful Grantville.
Visitors flocking to town to see spooky sets from season three

When the cotton mill closed, the rural Georgia town of Grantville began a slow transformation into a ghost town. Residents fled. Storefronts faded. Buildings decayed.

Over the decades, time turned the remains of the town into something almost post-apocalyptic, the perfect modern-day set for humans and "walkers" to attack one another. That's how the hugely popular TV show The Walking Dead ended up coming to town and bringing new life to Grantville.

Several key scenes in one episode from the AMC series were filmed on and near a one-block stretch of antique buildings on Grantville's Main Street.

The series' fourth season premieres on Oct. 13. Crews have been filming the new episodes in Georgia, but they keep locations of future episodes closely guarded secrets until the shows air.

In Grantville, the town's ruins were featured prominently last season. Bodies of walkers slain on the show were buried in a vacant lot beneath the brick archway remaining from a cotton mill building. Gunshots were fired from a nearby rooftop.

And child actor Chandler Riggs, who plays Carl Grimes on the show, entertained himself between scenes by placing pennies on the railroad tracks, the coins soon smashed into souvenirs by passing freight trains.

Now, every Saturday, visitors from around the country and the world turn off Interstate 85 and onto a two-lane highway that leads to the tiny town 80 kilometres southwest of Atlanta.

Draw of the Dead

Other productions have taken place in Grantville, but none have drawn the visitors like The Walking Dead. "Nobody came after they filmed Lawless and Broken Bridges here," says Mayor Jim Sells. "But once this episode aired from The Walking Dead, people started showing up from all over."

Since last summer, more than 3,600 visitors have taken a free tour led by Grantville Mayor Jim Sells, who explains where each scene from the Clear episode — during which the character Morgan makes it his mission to "clear" walkers by killing them — was filmed.

Visitors have come from as far as Australia, Singapore and Brazil, rejuvenating the town through tourism.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Thai take on Butternut Squash soup

1. In a stock or large soup pot over medium-low, heat the oil. Add the onions, garlic and salt and cook until the onions have softened, about 10 minutes. Stir in the ginger and curry paste and cook for a minute or two more. Add the squash and water and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer until the squash is tender, 15 to 20 minutes.

2. While the squash is cooking, zest and juice the lime. Add about a teaspoon of the zest and 1 tablespoon of the juice to the pot (reserving the extra). When the squash is tender, stir in the coconut milk.

3. Transfer soup to a blender or food processor, then purée until smooth. Be careful when blending hot liquids.

4. Return all of the soup to the pot and reheat. Taste and adjust the flavour as you wish with spoonful of sugar, if desired, as well as additional lime juice and/or curry paste. Stir in the spinach and cilantro and heat until just wilted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ (RECIPE ADAPTED FROM THE MOOSEWOOD COLLECTIVE'S MOOSEWOOD RESTAURANT FAVOURITES, 2013, ST. MARTIN'S GRIFFIN)

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 cups chopped yellow onions
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tbsp peeled and grated fresh ginger
- 1 tsp Thai red curry paste, or more to taste
- 2 1/2-lb butternut squash, peeled, seeded and chopped (about 6 cups)
- 3 cups water
- 1 lime
- 1 cup unsweetened coconut milk
- Sugar
- 2 cups baby spinach, cut into chiffonade
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro (optional)

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Thyme Gimlet

- 2 oz Belvedere vodka
- 3/4 oz thyme syrup*
- 3/4 oz lemon juice

Shake with cubed ice and strain over ice into a rocks glass. Garnish with lemon and thyme sprig.

***Thyme Syrup**

- 7-8 sprigs of fresh thyme
- 480 ml (16 oz) water
- 480 ml (16 oz) white sugar

Simmer thyme in the water for approximately 10 to 15 minutes or until you see the thyme go brown. Remove thyme and add sugar. Stir until dissolved. Cool and funnel into a glass bottle. Keep refrigerated. COURTESY BELVEDERE VODKA

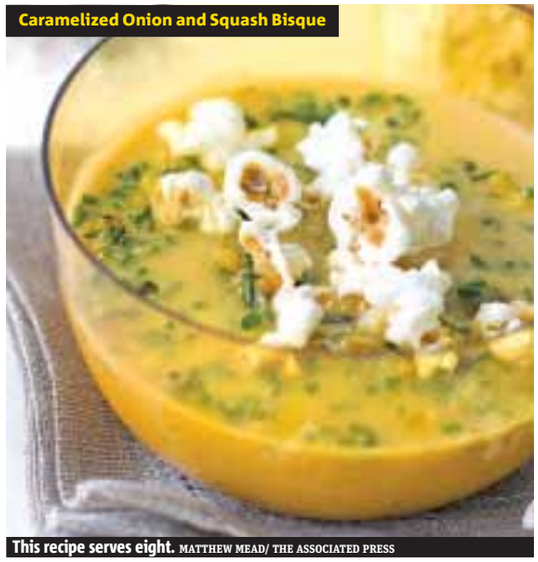
Oh, the places this fall bisque will take your taste buds

1. In saucepan over medium-high, heat vegetable oil. Add onions, shallots, salt and herbs, then sauté 5 minutes. Reduce heat to medium and continue to cook, stirring often, until the onions are soft and brown, about another 20 minutes.

2. Add vinegar and deglaze pan. Add squash and 3 cups of broth, then bring to simmer. Cover and cook until squash is completely tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Working in batches, transfer the soup to a blender and purée until smooth. Alternatively, purée the soup in the pot using an immersion blender. Either way, take care when blending hot liquids.

3. Return bisque to heat and stir in cream. If a thinner bisque is desired, thin the soup with the remaining cup of broth. Heat until just hot. Season with salt and pepper. To serve, finish with any of the following:

Caramelized Onion and Squash Bisque



This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spiced Shrimp and Scallions
Toss 12 ounces of small cooked shrimp with 1 teaspoon five-spice powder. Top with sliced scallions.

Asiago and Apple
Stir 2 finely diced apples into the bisque, then bring back to a simmer. Top with shredded Asiago cheese.

Barbecue Pulled Pork
Stir together 2 cups of shredded/pulled cooked pork with 1/3 cup barbecue sauce. Top the soup first with the pork, then a dollop of sour cream and chopped fresh cilantro.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 large sweet onions, diced
- 2 medium shallots, chopped
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp dried Italian herbs
- 2 tbsp apple cider vinegar
- 1 1/2 lbs cubed, peeled butternut squash
- 3 to 4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Salt and ground black pepper

Two Corn and Herbs
Cook 1 cup of thawed frozen corn kernels on high in a skillet with 1 tablespoon of oil until lightly browned. Stir the kernels into the bisque along with 2 tablespoons each of chopped fresh tarragon, thyme and chives. Finish by topping the bisque with salted, buttered popcorn.

Peppered Jack
Stir in 1 diced red bell pepper and 1/4 cup diced pickled jalapenos. Top with shredded pepper jack cheese.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lunch. Spiced Squash

1. Cut squash in half crosswise and peel using a vegetable peeler. Remove seeds and chop squash to yield about 1.25 l (5 cups).

2. In a soup pot, heat oil over medium heat and cook onion and garlic for 3 minutes. Add squash, oregano, paprika and cinnamon and cook, stirring, for 2 minutes. Add broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for about 25 minutes or until squash is very tender.

3. Using an immersion blender, purée soup until smooth. Alternatively, ladle into blender or food processor in batches and purée until smooth. Return to soup pot, stir in coriander and warm through. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST

Ingredients

- 1 small butternut squash (about 1 kg/2 lb)
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) canola oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 10 ml (2 tsp) dried oregano leaves
- 5 ml (1 tsp) paprika
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 1.25 l (5 cups) vegetable broth
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) chopped fresh coriander

Who's turning up at the interview table?

Interrogation differentiation.

Five types of tough interviewers and how to handle each

MEGHAN GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca

Walking into an interview is not the most relaxing activity out there.

This is partly because interviews come with many unknowns.

What questions will an interviewer ask? What skills should you focus on? How long will the interview be?

One of the biggest unknowns when going into an interview is: what will the interviewer be like?

Don't let this trio of tough talkers intimidate you. Keeping calm and carrying on will show them you're ready to cruise into this career. ISTOCK

An interviewer's personality can be a hard thing to predict until you actually come face to face in the interview. To help you be savvy to the types of interviewers you might face as a student or new grad on the job hunt, here are a few dominant interviewer personality types and how to adjust successfully to them on the spot.

Rambling

A rambler is an interviewer who is chatty, friendly and outgoing. Though this behaviour may be a relief when you first start the interview, try not to let your guard down too much.

In order to ensure that you're able to communicate the information that matters (skills, experience and so on), you'll need to single out the relevant aspects of the discussion and answer each question concisely and skillfully.

Shy

Usually it's the interviewee who feels shy, but interviewers can be a ball of nerves as well.

If you encounter a shy interviewer, the main thing is to understand that this is just their personality — not that you're performing poorly. Shy interviewers can be hard to read, difficult to create a conversation with and may wrap up the entire thing quickly.

The smart thing to do in this situation is to pick up on their personality type right away so you don't panic. To ease the atmosphere, try to be friendly, put them at ease and end in a positive way with a handshake.

Harsh

The great thing about this type of interviewer personality is that you'll recognize it the moment you walk in the door, which gives you more time to adjust successfully.

With questions being fired rapidly, an edgy tone and intimidating body language it can be easy to unravel on the spot. The key to magnificently performing with a harsh interviewer is to keep your composure. Take your time to answer each question, speak in a calm and paced manner and minimize small talk.

Inexperienced

Shaky hands, questions that don't flow together, quick exits and awkward conversations are all signs of an inexperienced or unprepared interviewer.

As the interviewee this can be surprising, but the key to having a stellar interview with an inexperienced interviewer is not being thrown off track. With this type of interviewer you need to be sure that even though they might not be addressing questions that allow you to showcase your information, you do it yourself.

Keep to your key points of discussion, relate them back to the position at hand in plain language and treat the interviewer professionally in order to keep things on track.

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And last but not least...

Nosy interviewers tend to unintentionally stray away from work-related questions during an interview.

- They may be trying to get you to reveal a little too much about your personality and life outside of work, or they may just be naturally inquisitive. In either case, you have to bring them back to the focus of the interview: you.
- You can usually figure out that you're being interviewed by a nosy interviewer within the first few minutes of the interview.
- Avoid being drawn into answering personal questions with noncommittal or brief answers and a polite return to the topic at hand.

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Consumer loyalty programs have become an ingrained part of Canadian life. From the iconic Canadian Tire money to the latest digital smartphone wizardry, competition continues to evolve and raise the stakes for businesses and deliver benefits to consumers.

Canadians are global leaders in loyalty program participation. The average Canadian household is active in 9.2 programs. By comparison, the average American household is active in only 6.2 programs.

An ongoing study by Canadian research firm Abacus Data found that an astounding nine in 10 Canadian adults belong to loyalty programs.

"These statistics haven't really shifted much during the three surveys we conducted in 2013," says Sean Copeland, Abacus Data's director of consumer research. "We consistently see most Canadians using three or more rewards programs on a regular basis to collect points or miles for future redemption."

The most popular loyalty programs in Canada are Air Miles Rewards (seven in 10 Canadians), and the Shoppers Optimum program (three in 10 Canadians). While these cards won't disappear from Canadian wallets anytime soon, there are big changes on the horizon as Canadian businesses adjust to the shifting consumer loyalty landscape.

Research shows Canadians are most interested in loyalty programs that are simple, clear, and deliver instant rewards.

The American retail giant Target, currently opening stores in Canada, is taking heed. Target's "Red Card," a branded debit or credit card, gives shoppers an instant five per cent off at checkout for every purchase.

Target aims to not only draw new customers, but to also fill each shopping cart with a little more merchandise. Experts contend that the Red Card adds between one and two per cent to the total of each checkout at Target, and more established Canadian competitors are expected to follow suit with similar offers.

An emerging trend in consumer loyalty programs is the use of smartphone-based applications to replace physical cards.

Canada's largest grocer recently launched a new digital loyalty program targeting customers with individually tailored promotions. PC Plus, the Loblaw program, targets customers using their purchase histories, offering discounts on items they buy regularly, along with products they might be interested in, but need an incentive to try.

– Peter Doyle

CONSUMERS WANT MORE AND WANT IT NOW

While Canadians are still very much in love with consumer loyalty programs, it appears the relationship has moved into a new and more demanding phase.

Token gifts and promises are no longer enough — consumers now want bigger rewards, and expect to be able to access them sooner.

The attitude shift became clear following Loblaw's acquisition of Shoppers Drug Mart. Optimum, the pharmacy retailer's rewards card, is Canada's most popular customer reward program. When the acquisition was announced, Optimum members flooded social media sites and the program's call centre with their concerns. Both retail chains were forced to reassure consumers about the program's future.

"Canadians have grown up with loyalty programs in many circumstances, so there's almost an expectation," says Kevin O'Brien, chief commercial officer at Aeroplan Canada.

O'Brien is all too familiar with the potential consequences of failing to meet consumer expectations. In 2006, Aeroplan announced an expiry date for points accumulated under the program.

DMITRY KALINOVSKY/COLOURBOX

Not surprisingly, consumer reaction was intensely negative and Aeroplan's subsequent struggles led to a complete redesign of the program — and new credit card partners — earlier this year.

Clearly, consumers no longer consider rewards a simple perk; today, they expect to be properly compensated for their loyalty. Most members of customer loyalty programs recognize they are providing retailers with valuable information; they are determined to get something in return. Goodbye romance, hello interest-based negotiations.

A 2013 white paper published by Environics Research reflects just how much the loyalty program landscape has shifted. The paper reviewed 22 loyalty programs and outlines a new way to determine their relative value — a measure it calls "time to reward." The new measure takes into account both the potential value of reward points a consumer receives for a given purchase, as well as the amount of shopping required before "cashing in" those points.

"When it comes to loyalty programs, what is ultimately most important to the consumer is being able to understand how long it will take them to achieve their desired reward," the study states.

The report suggests that the best way to meet these expectations — and to retain members — is to provide consumers with opportunities to collect points quickly, such as through "double-dip" offers (twice the amount of rewards for buying specific products).

– Peter Doyle

REAP YOUR REWARDS FASTER

Loyalty programs offer the opportunity to be rewarded for purchases you make every day. However, with so many programs to choose from and so much information available, it is easy to miss out on the ones that would get you to your chosen reward faster.

To help clear through the clutter, a new, free online tool (compareloyaltyprograms.ca) asks a few simple questions and recommends up to three programs that will get you to your chosen rewards faster based on your preferred rewards, lifestyle and shopping habits. What's really new and unique about the tool is that it strategically evaluates cards based on "time to reward" or how quickly you can reach your desired reward.

According to the 2013 COLLOQUY Loyalty Census, the average Canadian household is involved in about eight loyalty programs. Rewards fall into three categories — cash, merchandise or travel — and, historically, people have signed up from the point-of-view of "how much do I have to spend in order to get rewards."

"But it's not just about the dividend or payout rate that these programs offer," says David MacDonald, group VP, custom/financial, Environics Research Group. "It's about how you accumulate points and how quickly you can get a reward of some sizable value to you."

The tool, which was created by Environics Research Group, is quick and simple to use. All you have to do is enter a bit of information about shopping preferences and habits, and which type of rewards you prefer. Then, the tool determines up to three Canadian loyalty programs or affiliated credit cards that are most likely to get you $100 in rewards faster.

The evaluation is based on substantial research into Canadians' habits using loyalty programs and what kinds of rewards they prefer, says Ken Wong, marketing professor at Queen's School of Business, Kingston, Ont., who reviewed and approved the research methodology.

"The tool provides just three cards to consider, and that is easier than consumers having to compare 20 or 30 programs."

Also, you can fill out the tool several times if you want to see how differences in shopping habits and choices impact the variables and the cards recommended.

"The three cards you are presented with make most sense for the spending patterns you have entered," MacDonald says.

HOW TO MAXIMIZE PROGRAMS

• Reduce the number of loyalty programs you belong to, says Frank Pons, professor of marketing, Laval University. "When people have a lot of loyalty programs and cards, the tendency is to disperse points. Cards are really efficient if you focus on just one or two specific programs."

• Aggregate your points. "The more often you use the same card, the more points you will accumulate, and the faster you will get rewards," says Ken Wong, marketing professor at Queen's School of Business.

HEMERA/THINKSTOCK

• Choose loyalty programs based on your lifestyle. If you have the same card you had as a student and now you are married with kids, you probably aren't taking full advantage of points. "Maybe one spouse should sign up for one rewards program and do most of the shopping in that category and the other person do another," says David MacDonald, group VP, custom/financial, Environics Research Group.

• Double dip. Take advantage of loyalty programs that are affiliated with a credit card. "I was using a loyalty card and an unaffiliated credit card, and that forced me to spread my points rather than put them together and double up points," Wong says.

• Be wise with credit. Credit card programs can be a great way to super-charge your time to reward — there are often additional bonus rewards simply by using the credit card. But if you don't pay off the credit card balance every month, Pons says, you end up paying interest and not making a lot of money.

TOP 20 IN CANADA

Here are the top 20 loyalty programs by percentage of usage in Canada, based on the percentage of Canadians who collected rewards over a three-month period in 2012.

• AIR MILES Reward Program — 68 per cent
• Shoppers Optimum — 30 per cent
• HBC Rewards — 26 per cent
• Canadian Tire Money — 23 per cent
• Aeroplan — 23 per cent
• PETRO-POINTS — 18 per cent
• PC Points — 13 per cent
• Scene — 10 per cent
• Club Sobeys — 10 per cent
• Sears Card — 10 per cent
• Esso Extra — eight per cent
• CAA — seven per cent
• Save-On-More — seven per cent
• Plum Rewards — seven per cent
• RBC Rewards — seven per cent
• Best Buy Rewards — six per cent
• RBC Avion — three per cent
• Desjardins — three per cent
• AMEX Rewards — three per cent
• Walmart Rewards — three per cent

From left, Dustin Byfuglien, Al Montoya and Ondrej Pavelec pause for a break in play against the Canadiens on April 25. Pavelec may need a breather soon at the rate in which he's facing shots. MARIANNE HELM/GETTY IMAGES

Pavelec ever the busy goaltender

NHL. Jets have been outshot 108-77 through their first three games

The Winnipeg Jets know exactly how much goaltender Ondrej Pavelec has contributed to their 2-1-0 start this season.

"Well over 50 (per cent)," coach Claude Noel said Tuesday after practice, where the Jets were looking at ways to cut down the scoring chances they've been giving away.

"We know where we are. We have mirrors ... in our locker-room that we look at. We know what's happened, we can see that and that's why we're trying to focus on details."

It's early but the Jets have been outshot 108-77 in their first three games. This isn't entirely a new sensation for the Czech-born netminder.

Last season he was second in the league in the shots he faced and the Jets have built a reputation as slow starters. For Noel, the issue of shots isn't just the big number.

"Shots are one thing, they're not always the indicator for me. There's teams that get shots. It's more shots relating to scoring chances. If the shots are 15 and you're giving up five scoring chances, that's not good."

And defenceman Mark Stuart says the cure involves a lot more than just blocking pucks in front of Pavelec. They have to stop those shots from being taken.

"We should be good positionally and good enough defensively where we're not giving up shots, that many shots where you're trying to block everything," he said.

"You should be taking away passing lanes, you should be closing on people in the slot where that guy doesn't even have an opportunity to get a shot off."

Pavelec is confident the team will turn things around.

"We're trying; it's not like we don't care," he said. "We're working at it. It's going to take time. We know we've got to be ready. We realize that and I'm pretty sure we're going to be way better next game."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

American Association

Goldeyes voted organization of the year for 3rd straight time, 8th in 11 years

They might have missed the playoffs this season, but the Winnipeg Goldeyes are still No. 1 in the eyes of the American Association.

For the third straight year the league's manager and members of the media have voted to name the Winnipeg Goldeyes the American Association's organization of the year.

"It's an honour to once again be recognized by our brothers in the American Association for this award," Goldeyes general manager Andrew Collier said.

"It's a credit to the amount of time and effort our front-office staff puts in throughout the year and the amazing support we receive from our great fans."

The Goldeyes led the American Association — and all independent baseball teams — in attendance with an average crowd size of 5,880 fans per game in 2013.

Winnipeg has won the organization of the year award eight times out of the last 11 years dating back to their time in the Northern League.

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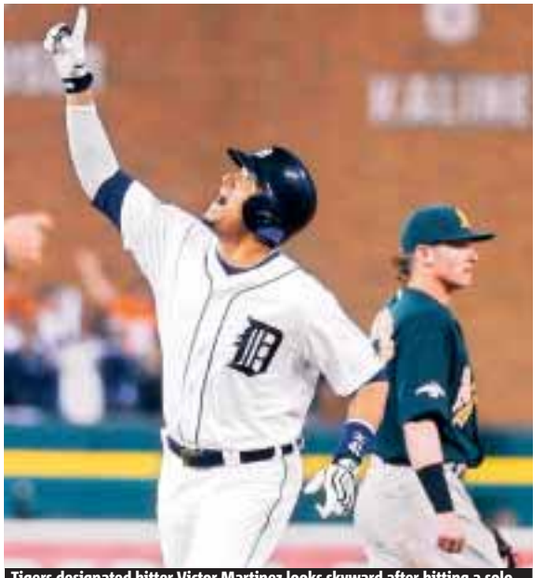
Tigers get by A's with a little help from their fans



Tigers designated hitter Victor Martinez looks skyward after hitting a solo home run in the seventh inning of Game 4 of the ALDS against the Oakland A's on Tuesday night in Detroit. LON HORWEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Disputed homer goes in Detroit faithful's favour in ALDS do-or-die

Max Scherzer escaped a major jam in relief and the Detroit Tigers — helped by two fans who reached out to try to reel in Victor Martinez's disputed home run — rallied past the Oakland Athletics 8-6 on Tuesday to force a decisive fifth game in their AL division series.

Playing catch-up most of the way, the Tigers tied it first with Jhonny Peralta's three-run homer in the fifth inning and then on Martinez's solo shot in the seventh. A couple of fans attempted to catch Martinez's drive, and at least one of them bobbled the ball as he reached over the railing above the wall — preventing right-fielder Josh Reddick from having any chance at a leaping grab.

Reddick and centre-fielder Coco Crisp immediately protested, pointing up at the stands in the hope of a fan-interference call. But umpires upheld the homer after a replay review.

Scherzer, making his first relief appearance since the 2011 playoffs, had already given up a run in the seventh. With the Tigers ahead 5-4, he allowed a walk and a double to start the eighth, but after an intentional walk to load the bases, manager Jim Leyland left his 21-game winner on the mound.

Scherzer struck out Reddick and Stephen Vogt before getting pinch-hitter Alberto Callaspo to line out to centre.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Game 4

8	6
Tigers	Athletics

NFL. Goodell 'confident' Redskins are listening

Avoiding direct answers to questions about whether "Redskins" is a racial slur or if the team should change its name, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says the league needs to "make sure we're doing what's right."

During a news conference Tuesday at the end of the league's fall meetings, four of the first five questions directed at Goodell were about the Washington Redskins' nickname.

Goodell says it's important "to listen and recognize that some other people may have different perspectives."

He adds that he's "confident that the Redskins are listening."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Commissioner Roger Goodell talks to Patriots owner Robert Kraft on Tuesday in Washington, D.C.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Vick active again in Philadelphia

Don't rule Michael Vick out just yet.

Two days after injuring his left hamstring, Vick was back on the field Tuesday. He threw and jogged, though he didn't participate in team drills during practice. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Rockets' Lin makes waves in Manila

Linsanity is gripping the Philippines.

Jeremy Lin, the NBA's first American-born player of Taiwanese descent, stole the show Tuesday at practice for a pre-season game in the basketball-obsessed country. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Toronto	4	3	1	0	13	10	6
Boston	2	2	0	0	7	2	4
Tampa Bay	3	2	1	0	7	7	4
Detroit	3	2	1	0	6	7	4
Ottawa	2	1	0	1	5	5	3
Montreal	2	1	1	0	7	5	2
Florida	3	1	2	0	5	11	2
Buffalo	4	0	3	1	4	10	1

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	0	12	3	6
N.Y. Islanders	3	2	0	1	12	7	5
Carolina	3	1	1	1	6	9	3
Columbus	2	1	1	0	6	6	2
N.Y. Rangers	2	1	1	0	4	5	2
Washington	3	1	2	0	10	12	2
New Jersey	3	0	1	2	7	12	2
Philadelphia	4	1	3	0	5	10	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Colorado	3	3	0	0	11	3	6
St. Louis	2	2	0	0	11	2	4
Winnipeg	3	2	1	0	12	10	4
Chicago	2	1	0	1	8	7	3
Dallas	2	1	1	0	4	5	2
Minnesota	2	0	0	2	5	7	2
Nashville	2	0	2	0	3	7	0

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	2	2	0	0	8	2	4
Vancouver	3	2	1	0	12	10	4
Anaheim	3	2	1	0	8	11	4
Calgary	3	1	0	2	12	13	4
Los Angeles	3	1	2	0	7	10	2
Edmonton	3	1	2	0	11	15	2
Phoenix	3	1	2	0	6	11	2

Note: Two points for a win, one point for an overtime/shootout loss.

Tuesday's results
Colorado 2 Toronto 1
N.Y. Islanders 6 Phoenix 1
Philadelphia 2 Florida 1
Pittsburgh 5 Carolina 2
Tampa Bay 3 Buffalo 2 (OT)
Minnesota at Nashville
New Jersey at Vancouver
NY Rangers at San Jose
Monday's results
Edmonton 5 New Jersey 4 (SO)
N.Y. Rangers 3 Los Angeles 1
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Chicago at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Ottawa at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

MLB PLAYOFFS

A.L. DIVISION SERIES

(Best-of-5; x — played only if necessary)

BOSTON (1) VS. TAMPA BAY (6)

(Boston leads series 2-1)
Tuesday's result
Boston at Tampa Bay
Monday's result
Tampa Bay 5 Boston 4
Thursday's game
x-Tampa Bay (Moore 17-4) at Boston (Lester 15-8), 5:37 p.m.

OAKLAND (2) VS. DETROIT (3)

(Series tied 2-2)
Tuesday's result
Detroit 8 Oakland 6
Monday's result
Oakland 6 Detroit 3
Thursday's game
Detroit (Scherzer 21-3) at Oakland (Colon 18-6), 9:07 p.m.

N.L. DIVISION SERIES

ST. LOUIS (1) VS. PITTSBURGH (4)

(Series tied 2-2)
Monday's result
St. Louis 2 Pittsburgh 1
Wednesday's game
Pittsburgh (Burnett 10-11) at St. Louis (Wainwright 19-9), 5:07 p.m.

ATLANTA (2) VS. L.A. DODGERS (3)

(Los Angeles Dodgers wins series 3-1)
Monday's result
Los Angeles Dodgers 4 Atlanta 3

CFL

WEEK 16

EAST	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
x-Toronto	14	9	5	0	407	370	18
x-Hamilton	14	7	7	0	360	383	14
Montreal	14	6	8	0	349	385	12
Winnipeg	14	2	12	0	279	459	4
WEST							
x-Calgary	14	11	3	0	446	323	22
x-Saskatchewan	14	9	5	0	419	316	18
x-B.C.	14	9	5	0	395	350	18
Edmonton	14	3	11	0	340	409	6

x — clinched playoff berth.
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
B.C. at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Saturday's game
Edmonton at Saskatchewan, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 14
Winnipeg at Montreal, 1 p.m.
Toronto vs. Hamilton (at Guelph), 4:30 p.m.

NFL

WEEK SIX

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
N.Y. Giants at Chicago, 8:25 p.m.
Sunday's games
Detroit at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Houston, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Jacksonville at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
New Orleans at New England, 4:25 p.m.
Arizona at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 14
Indianapolis at San Diego, 8:40 p.m.

MLS

Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Kansas City at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday's games
New England at Montreal, 2:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at D.C., 7 p.m.
Chicago at FC Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday's game — Seattle at Portland, 9 p.m.

DRIVE 5

The 2013 Acura TL

Review. Acura's top sport sedan is looking great and getting old gracefully

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

ALL PHOTOS BY JUSTIN PRITCHARD

2013 Acura TL

- **Fuel economy.** 9.9L /100km
- **Engines (hp).** 3.7L V6, 305 horsepower, VTEC.
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed automatic
- **Base price (incl. destination)** (TL SH-AWD Elite) $49,450

Key strengths

This isn't a machine that begs for attention, but rather focuses on sensibility and a quiet, confident demeanor. And, though high-tech and sporty, the TL is easy to drive, easy to learn and requires nothing of the driver when they'd prefer to relax and enjoy a peaceful drive.

Key complaints

Simply, it's getting old. The navigation and infotainment read-outs are due for an overhaul, and so are many of the controls and interfaces on board. More power would help the TL earn the dollars of driving enthusiasts, and the lack of folding rear seats limits cargo carrying capacity.

Engine

All models get a VTEC V6 engine displacing either 3.5 or 3.7 litres. There is a larger unit, which has 305 (hp) through a SH-AWD system through a six-speed automatic. Thankfully, a manual transmission/AWD combo is also available. Standard models get the 3.5 litre powerplant and front-wheel drive.

The fourth-generation Acura TL launched for model-year 2009, and is due to be replaced any time by a new, fifth-generation machine. It's far from the freshest or newest model in its segment — but the current Acura TL is one of the most established.

That's thanks in no small part to its delivery of performance, technology and everyday sensibility alongside two things premium shoppers love: an honest price tag, and a promise of reliable, no-nonsense ownership thanks to Acura's gleaming reputation for reliability.

The gist? The TL is getting old these days, but it remains a staple product in its segment that's well-deserving of a test-drive. The looks might still be controversial, but the TL remains a great machine to drive, and a car special to the Acura brand. The current-generation TL put Super Handling All Wheel Drive (SH-AWD) technology into the mainstream luxury sedan market. And, though it was late to the game, it pushed Acura sedans past the 300-horsepower mark at long last.

All of this exists in a highly-usable package. There's generous room for four adults, plenty of at-hand storage, and a great looking, three-dimensional look to the instrument cluster, dashboard and controls. In all, you get unique styling that very much does its own thing while creating a distinctively upscale, techy atmosphere. Proper cupholders, deep door bins and a sense of always having a place for your stuff help round out the package.

Key competitors include the BMW 5-Series, Audi A6 and Infiniti G37. Though not pack-leading where output is concerned, the big V6 is very pleasing to listen to and really piles on the juice at high revs as the VTEC power-cam kicks in. The six-speed automatic works well with the engine for smoothness and response, supporting a sporty but very refined character.

The SH-AWD system, as noted on numerous other test-drives, has benefits which are two-fold. First, on slippery stuff, it finds surprising levels of traction — using sophisticated computer controls and fast-acting magnetic clutch packs to extract the most forward momentum from the ground beneath. Second, when drivers push the TL's limits a little, the system "overdrives" the inside rear wheel, which slightly slides the tail out and points the nose inwards in a sort of mini-drift.

Translation? You get playful agility and locked-on confidence, depending on what your right foot is up to on the surface in question.

That's all directed by a heavyset steering system that confidently transmits a sense of agility and playfulness to the driver, too. End of the day, few sedans are this all-out confident and discreetly entertaining when pushed hard.

Powerful and fairly communicative brakes back up the performance capabilities — and when you're on a relaxing drive, wind and road noise levels are kept adequately in check, as is fuel consumption. This engine might not have all the latest fuel-saving gadgets, but I still averaged under 10 lites per 100 km over the course of a week.

Other notes? The xenon projector lights are fantastic, and the big doors and big comfy seats make this an easy car to get in and out of, even many times per day. Finally, blind-spot monitoring and a slew of fully-automatic or voice-commanded features on the "Elite" grade test model I drove added a sense of effortless relaxation on lengthy road trips.

Numerous competitors are more modern-looking, both inside and out. A comparable Audi or Lexus will boast a more striking cabin, and a comparable BMW or Mercedes will likely prove more all-out comfortable.

The new TL has yet to be seen — but for the time being, shoppers after a car that's discreetly sporty, offers a proven reputation, delivers plenty of character and delivers a pleasing overall driving experience should add the current TL to their "to test drive" list.

TL's dashboard may not be as fancy as other makes, but still works well.

A rear-end view of the Acura TL.

Ford

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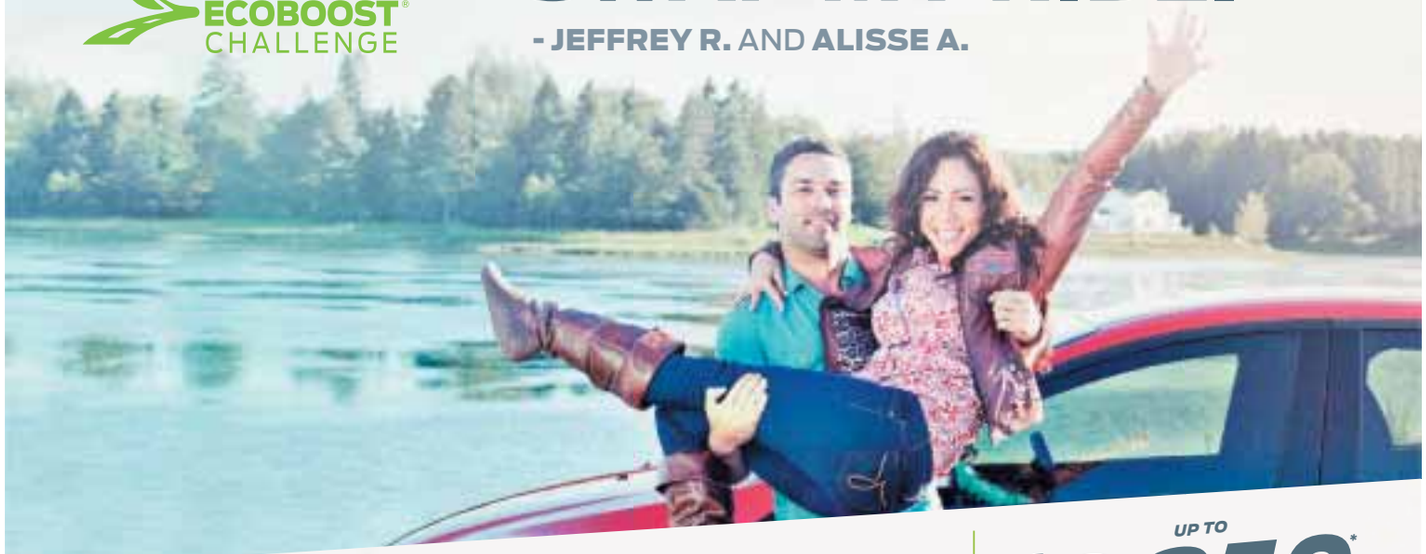

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Vehicle(s) may be shown with optional equipment. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. †Until October 31, 2013, receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2013 Ford Edge (excluding SE) for up to 48 months; 2014 Ford Fiesta] for up to 60 months; 2014 Ford [Taurus] for up to 60 months; 2014 Ford [Edge (excluding SE)] for up to 72 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 48/60/72 months, monthly payment is $521.83/ $416.66/ $347.22, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. ± Until October 31, 2013, lease a new 2013 Ford Edge (excluding SE) for up to 36 months with an optional buyout of $23,200 (40% of MSRP) at 0% APR for $299 bi-weekly ($648.17 monthly) per $4,466.97/$400.00 due at lease signing or delivery (includes $750 Winter Safety Package cash alternative, $500 manufacturer rebate, $1,000 Costco membership offer and $0 down or equivalent trade in, monthly payment is $648.17 for 36/48 months with an optional buyout of $23,200 (40% of MSRP) at 0% APR for 36/48 months with $4,466.97/$400.00 due at lease signing or delivery (includes $750 Winter Safety Package cash alternative, $500 manufacturer rebate, $1,000 Costco membership offer and $0 down or equivalent trade in). Lease Only. Offers may vary by model. See dealer for details. Offers include $750 Winter Safety Package cash alternative and $500 manufacturer rebate. Offers exclude freight and air tax. Offers include $750 Winter Safety Package cash alternative and exclude freight and air tax. Offers include $750 Winter Safety Package cash alternative and $500 manufacturer rebate. Offers exclude freight and air tax. ‡Until October 31, 2013, receive $2,000 Ford Credit bonus cash on new 2013 Ford Escape, Focus (excluding ST), Fusion, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Explorer F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 2014 Ford Escape, Focus (excluding ST), Fusion, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 2013 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, MKZ, MKT, MKS, MKX, Navigator and Town Car; 2014 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, MKZ, MKT, MKS, MKX and Navigator; 2013 Ford F-150 (excluding SVT Raptor); 2014 Ford F-150 (excluding SVT Raptor) and 2014 Ford Transit Connect Wagon; 2013 Ford Super Duty (excluding Chassis Cab); 2014 Ford Super Duty (excluding Chassis Cab) purchased or leased from dealer stock by October 31, 2013 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with a Costco membership on or before August 31, 2013. Use this $1,000 Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of a new 2013/2014 Ford [excluding Fiesta, Focus, C-Max, Raptor, GT500, Mustang Boss 302, Transit Connect EV, and Medium Truck] or Lincoln vehicle (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). The Eligible Vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, is subject to vehicle availability, and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. Offer is not combinable with any CPA/CPO or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFP). Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000 CDN offer is deducted. ††Receive a winter safety package which includes: four (4) winter tires, four (4) steel wheels and four (4) tire pressure monitoring sensors when you purchase or lease any new 2013/2014 Ford Focus (excluding S and Focus Electric), Escape, Fusion, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Explorer F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 2013 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, MKZ, MKT, MKS, MKX, Navigator and Town Car; 2014 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, MKZ, MKT, MKS, MKX and Navigator; 2013 Ford F-150 (excluding SVT Raptor); 2014 Ford F-150 (excluding SVT Raptor) and 2014 Ford Transit Connect Wagon; 2013 Ford Super Duty (excluding Chassis Cab); 2014 Ford Super Duty (excluding Chassis Cab) purchased or leased from dealer stock by October 31, 2013 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with a Costco membership on or before August 31, 2013. 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Hey Mr. Car Dealer Man, let's get haggling

Driving force. Autumn is a great time to take advantage of dealers that need to sell their new cars, so enjoy the wiggle room on price

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Along with colourful leaves and crisp weather, fall also brings the latest vehicles into the showrooms. It's often a good time to buy a new car, as dealers clear out their inventory of last year's models to make way for the new ones.

"Manufacturers want those new cars in the hands of consumers," says Ben Spatafora, national director for CarCostCanada. That means not only can you expect to find deals on the outgoing model-year vehicles, but automakers may even be using incentives and discounts to get those incoming cars and trucks into consumers' driveways.

Almost all new-car dealerships are independently-owned franchises, and almost all purchase their inventory — those new cars, trucks and SUVs sitting on the lot — with a revolving line of credit, commonly known as a "floor plan."

Every day these vehicles sit unsold, they're racking up interest charges. And if the 2014 model isn't substantially changed from the 2013 version, and the MSRP (manufacturer's suggested retail price, the maximum the dealer can charge for the car) is close enough to that of the 2014, many buyers will choose the newer model year. The dealer doesn't want to get stuck with any unsold 2013 models, so you're in a good position to strike a deal on one.

While ordering a vehicle from the factory will allow you to get precisely the options and colour you want, you probably won't have as much opportunity to negotiate on the price, since it will only pass through the dealer's hands for delivery and licensing.

You'll have a far better chance with one that's sitting in the dealer's inventory.

"All buyers will have some sort of 'wiggle room' on the price when the product is in stock," Spatafora says. "The moment it hits the pavement, the clock starts to tick, and there's motivation for the seller to move it quicker rather than later."

Manufacturers' incentives on vehicles can include cash discounts, low- or zero-per cent interest rates on financing, or products such as winter tire packages, no-charge oil changes, or other maintenance services. If you're thinking of replacing your vehicle because it's becoming unreliable or no longer suits your family's needs, Spatafora suggests planning ahead, instead of having to scramble when your old one gives out.

"If you think you'll need a new car in the spring, then start to look now," he says. "If you can time it with big incentives, model changes, or end-of-year or seasonal sales, that's a bonus."

These signs look familiar? That because it's fall again. CONTRIBUTED

MORAY AUTO BODY
Autopac, Private & Custom Repairs
COLLISION AND AUTO BODY REPAIRS
- MPI/Autopac, private and custom repairs
- Repairs to all makes and models
- Hail and collision repairs completed quickly
- Glass replacement
- Paint for motorcycle parts
- Complete frame and unibody repair specialist
- Free courtesy car (by appointment)
- Rust repairs/patching
The Little Body Shop with the Big Heart ❤
Tel: 204-885-2080 • 700-B North Moray St. WPG
Email: morayautobody@mymts.net
Website: www.morayautobody.ca

Leasing is popular again but be prepared for term-ending inspection. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Get a new lease on life — just don't crash

Autopilot. Car rental is on the rise and properly regulated so here's some tips on mitigating your end-of-term wear and tear charges

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

More automakers are offering leasing as a finance option, and more consumers are taking up their offers.

We won't go into which option — loans or leasing — makes more sense for you, because that's an economic or accounting class, and I've sworn off school ever since that wardrobe malfunction at the blackboard back in Grade 7.

Instead, let's take a minute or two to talk about the lease-end vehicle inspection.

They've had a history of being acrimonious, but things are better now.

Big, nationwide third-party providers now perform the inspections, and have been extensively schooled to be consistent. The inspections are also now almost always done while the lessee still has the vehicle, so he or she can address issues and/or negotiate charges before the final bill is produced.

Honda Canada, for example, will send out a letter notifying you that an inspection company will be contacting you around 45 days prior to lease end. The parties then arrange a suitable date and location for the inspection, which takes about 30 to 40 minutes.

"Lessees will receive a paper copy of their inspection immediately," says William Hope, Manager-Lease Maturity Centre, Honda Canada Finance.

"The inspection lists all exceptions but not estimated cost. … The lessee is provided a website and can view their inspection online within 48 hours, in which all estimated charges will have been completed."

If you think you can get the exceptions fixed cheaper than Honda, go ahead and knock yourself out.

Of course, you can bypass this whole exercise by purchasing an excess wear and tear protection plan. Depending on the value of the vehicle, these plans can run about $500 to $1,000. The Honda product is called Lease Guard Insurance.

Jim Mathews, president of LeaseBusters, thinks they are "terrific" and highly recommends them.

Not only do you not have to worry about extra charges, if you need to get out of the lease, and you engage a firm like LeaseBusters to find you a suitable person to take over the lease, your vehicle is instantly more desirable than all the other lease vehicles trying to find new homes.

If you don't have such a plan and you're facing your inspection soon, Mathews says to be particularly aware of the following:

Repair windshield chips. If there is something not up to grade about the windshield, the leasing company will typically charge you for a complete replacement. If a crack or chip can be repaired, get it repaired.

Measure tire tread depth. Have your dealership or independent technician professionally measure the tread depth on the tires, to determine if they will pass or fail the allowances for acceptable tire wear. If they don't, replace them with a matching used set that does. And remember to make sure they confirm to the OEM's requirements for speed and load ratings. If you do anything less, they could theoretically ding you for a complete new set.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
It's not like you to be so trusting but you are determined to see the best in people and your faith in human nature, temporary though it may be, will be rewarded today.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may have a pile of work to finish but shove it all to one side and worry about it at a later date. Most likely that "later" will never arrive and you'll be glad you did not waste time on trivia.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Wherever you go over the next 24 hours, people will greet you with open arms. Why are you suddenly so popular? Because of your sunny nature, of course, and because you are rarely judgmental.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You are getting obsessive about something and it's not healthy. It's unlikely you will just give up on it, so maybe you should indulge it — and get it out of your system.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You don't have to carry the world on your shoulders. Friends and colleagues will make life easier for you today, but they will only succeed if you meet them halfway.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You could easily spend lots of money and have nothing to show for it, so maybe you should leave your credit cards at home.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
People you meet today may not be very talkative but you will know exactly what they are thinking. If there is one thing you are good at, it is reading body language.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Scorpio is a sensitive sign and that sensitivity can be both a blessing and a curse. Which one it is today depends on how easily you let yourself be annoyed by petty events.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You'll need to employ a certain amount of critical thinking over the next 24 hours, especially when dealing with new ideas, as some people may find them a bit outrageous.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You're in a friendly mood and that's good because the more you smile and say nice things the more you'll get the kind of offers you like. What kind are they? The kind that pay lots of money!

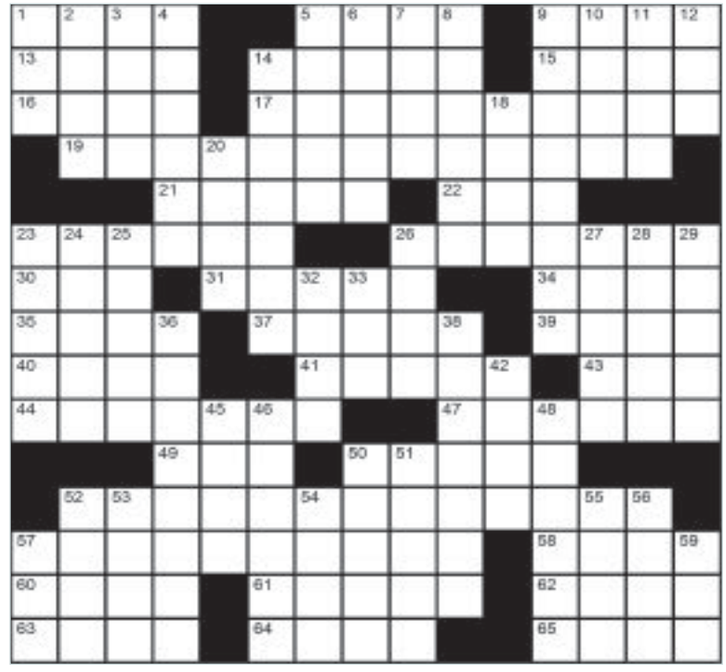
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will be impatient with people who get in your way today but hopefully not so impatient that you start a fight. Slow down, calm down and try not to take little things personally — they're not.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you are confused about something then you must speak up, even though you don't like to admit to your ignorance in front of other people. The important thing is to get it right. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



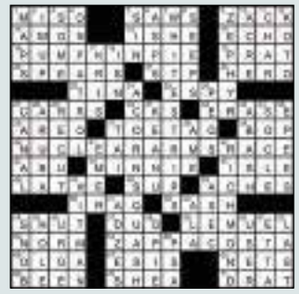
Across

1. Gordon Pinsent's actress daughter
5. French words?
9. Konvicted rapper
13. Inventor, Thomas __ Edison
14. Flashdance (1983) star Michael
15. Ms. Downey of Touched by an Angel
16. Gladiator's 554
17. Bit of Ramble On by Led Zeppelin: "The __ __ lights my way."
19. Canadian actress who played Lily Munster: 3 wds.
21. Nova Scotia's Straight of __
22. Provincial song: __ to Newfoundland
23. Ornamental tree
26. Hip-Hop group, __ Boys
30. Ohh's kin
31. Moderner
34. Salon shade
35. Rattling sound from the chest
37. Shave the sheep
39. Comic actor Mr. Green
40. _.__ (British band)
41. Sarah McLachlan song
43. Mr. Gershwin
44. Caustic talk
47. Filet __
49. "Let me think..."
50. John Hersey's bell town
52. Madonna's pre-concerts rituals: 2 wds.
57. Fluently-bilingual-person job title
58. Minstrel's instrument
60. __ Kong
61. Comedian/actor Denis
62. Russian river
63. Border
64. Leaky balloon sounds
65. Tommy James & The Shondells tune, when repeated

Down

1. Chap
2. Jed Clampett's daughter, __ May
3. Tel __
4. Mayhems
5. Pouting grimaces
6. Perform better than
7. Genuine
8. Big lake in Ontario
9. Captain's chair
10. __-Aid (Fun drink)
11. Herman Melville story
12. Book publisher, __ A. Talese
14. Jobs like filmdom's Miss McPhee's
18. Zippo
20. Flatbread variety
23. The Simpsons kid, and namesakes
24. Catherine of SCTV
25. Winnipeg Jet, e.g.
26. Talk big
27. Marketing link: 2 wds.
28. Short start?
29. Mr. Hawke
32. Brit pop duo!
33. Literary contraction
36. Toronto Stock __
38. Take the plunge again
42. The Mod Squad character, __ Hayes
45. Songstress Ms. Grant's
46. Uses one's nose
48. J.R.R. Tolkien character in the song at #17-Across
50. __ __ a go between (Mediate)
51. Gowns by designer Christian
52. Nudge
53. Called
54. Charlotte of TV, and others
55. Certain monetary unit
56. Saxophonist Mr. Getz
57. British band, when doubled
59. Cathedral city

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

		8						
	4			3		9	1	
	9	1			2	7		5
		6		7				
	8		1	2	6		3	
				5		1		
5		7	9			4	2	
	2	3		1			6	
						3		

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	7	8	5	9	3	1	4	6
9	1	4	8	6	2	5	3	7
5	6	3	4	7	1	9	2	8
8	3	9	6	1	7	4	5	2
7	4	6	9	2	5	3	8	1
1	2	5	3	8	4	7	6	9
4	9	2	1	3	6	8	7	5
3	8	7	2	5	9	6	1	4
6	5	1	7	4	8	2	9	3

Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAX: 17° MIN: 6°	MAX: 18° MIN: 12°	MAX: 18° MIN: 12°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6 AM**

Join the Celebration!
Build our Future. Buy a Brick.
Support the next 75 years at Red River College.
Don't miss this chance to ensure you'll be a part of our lasting legacy.
For more information, visit rrc.ca/buyabrick
Your commitment to the College - set in stone!
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
RED RIVER COLLEGE

Join the Celebration!

Support the next 75 years at Red River College. Build our Future. Buy a Brick.

Engraved brick walkways are a great way to celebrate those with a special connection to Red River College.

- Proceeds go to the College's 75th Anniversary Endowment Fund
- Walkways will be located at the Notre Dame and Exchange District Campuses
- Honour a friend or loved one, or mark a special occasion. It's up to you!

Don't miss this chance to ensure you'll be a part of our lasting legacy.
For more information, visit **rrc.ca/buyabrick**

For a complete listing of our 75th anniversary events, visit **rrc.ca/75years**

Your commitment to the College – set in stone!

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
RED RIVER COLLEGE